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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

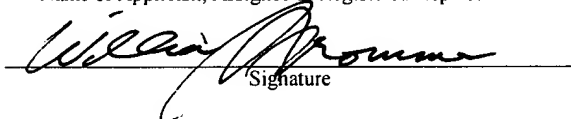
Applicants : NAGUMO, Takefumi *et al.* Notice of Allowance  
Appl. No. : 09/699,209 Dated: 6/29/2005  
Filed : October 27, 2000 Confirmation No. 8273  
For : SIGNAL PROCESSING DEVICE, SIGNAL PROCESS METHOD,  
DECODING DEVICE, DECODING METHOD AND RECORDING  
MEDIUM  
Art Unit : 2613  
Examiner : RAO, Anand Shashikant

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with  
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Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 29, 2005

William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

July 29, 2005

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

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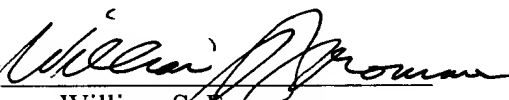
Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which  
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed June 29, 2005. To the extent the Examiner's  
Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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